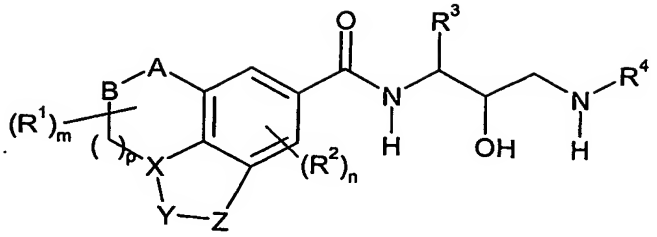
Claims

1. A compound of formula (I):



(I)

wherein

R^1 and R^2 independently represent C_{1-3} alkyl, C_{2-4} alkenyl, halogen, C_{1-3} alkoxy, amino, cyano or hydroxy;

m and n independently represent 0, 1 or 2;

p represents 1 or 2;

A-B represents $-NR^5-SO_2-$ or $-NR^5-CO-$;

R^5 represents hydrogen, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{3-6} alkenyl, C_{3-6} alkynyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, arylC_{1-6} alkyl-, heteroarylC_{1-6} alkyl-, arylC_{3-8} cycloalkyl- or heteroarylC_{3-8} cycloalkyl-;

X-Y-Z represents $-N-CR^8=CR^9-$;

R^8 represents hydrogen, C_{1-6} alkyl or C_{3-8} cycloalkyl;

R^9 represents hydrogen, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, arylC_{1-6} alkyl-, heteroarylC_{1-6} alkyl-, arylC_{3-8} cycloalkyl-, heteroarylC_{3-8} cycloalkyl-, $-COOR^{10}$, $-OR^{10}$, $-CONR^{10}R^{11}$, $-SO_2NR^{10}R^{11}$, $-COC_{1-6}$ alkyl or $-SO_2C_{1-6}$ alkyl (wherein R^{10} and R^{11} independently represent hydrogen, C_{1-6} alkyl or C_{3-8} cycloalkyl);

R^3 represents optionally substituted C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, C_{2-6} alkynyl, $-C_{1-6}$ alkyl-C_{3-8} cycloalkyl, $-C_{1-6}$ alkyl-aryl, $-C_{1-6}$ alkyl-heteroaryl or $-C_{1-6}$ alkyl-heterocyclyl;

R^4 represents hydrogen, optionally substituted C_{1-10} alkyl, C_{2-6} alkynyl, $-C_{3-8}$ cycloalkyl, $-C_{3-8}$ cycloalkenyl, aryl, heteroaryl, heterocyclyl, $-C_{1-6}$ alkyl-C_{3-8} cycloalkyl, $-C_{3-8}$ cycloalkyl-aryl, -heterocyclyl-aryl, $-C_{1-6}$ alkyl-aryl-heteroaryl, $-C(R^aR^b)-CONH-C_{1-6}$ alkyl, $-C(R^aR^b)-CONH-C_{3-8}$ cycloalkyl, $-C_{1-6}$ alkyl-S-C_{1-6} alkyl, $-C_{1-6}$ alkyl-NR^cR^d, $-C(R^aR^b)-C_{1-6}$ alkyl, $-C(R^aR^b)$-aryl, $-C(R^aR^b)$-heteroaryl, $-C(R^aR^b)$-heteroaryl-heteroaryl, $-C(R^aR^b)-C_{1-6}$ alkyl-aryl, $-C(R^aR^b)-C_{1-6}$ alkyl-heteroaryl, $-C(R^aR^b)-C_{1-6}$ alkyl-heterocyclyl, $-C_{1-6}$ alkyl-O-C_{1-6} alkyl-aryl, $-C_{1-6}$ alkyl-O-C_{1-6} alkyl-heteroaryl or $-C_{1-6}$ alkyl-O-C_{1-6} alkyl-heterocyclyl;

R^a and R^b independently represent hydrogen, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, C_{2-6} alkynyl or C_{3-8} cycloalkyl, or R^a and R^b together with the carbon atom to which they are attached may form a C_{3-8} cycloalkyl or heterocyclyl group;

R^c and R^d independently represent hydrogen, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, C_{2-6} alkynyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkyl or R^c and R^d together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached may form a nitrogen containing heterocyclyl group;

wherein said aryl, heteroaryl or heterocyclyl groups of R^3-R^5, R^9 and R^a-R^d may be optionally substituted by one or more (eg. 1 to 5) C_{1-6} alkyl, halogen, haloC_{1-6} alkyl, haloC_{1-6} alkoxy, oxo, C_{1-6} alkoxy, C_{2-6} alkynyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, amino, cyano, nitro, -$NR^{22}COR^{23}$, $-CONR^{22}R^{23}$ $-SO_2R^{22}$, $-SO_2NR^{22}R^{23}$, $-COOR^{22}$, -C_{1-6} alkyl-$NR^{22}R^{23}$ (wherein R^{22} and R^{23} independently represent hydrogen, C_{1-6} alkyl or C_{3-8} cycloalkyl), -C_{1-6} alkyl-O-C_{1-6} alkyl, -C_{1-6} alkanoyl or hydroxy groups;
and wherein said alkyl and cycloalkyl groups of R^1-R^5, R^8-R^{11}, R^{22}-R^{23} and R^a-R^d may be optionally substituted by one or more (eg. 1 to 6) halogen, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} alkoxy, C_{1-6} alkylamino, amino, cyano, hydroxy, carboxy or -$COOC_{1-6}$ alkyl groups;
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or solvate thereof.

2. A compound according to claim 1 which is a compound of formula E1-E106 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

3. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of formula (I) as defined in claim 1 or claim 2 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or solvate thereof in admixture with one or more pharmaceutically acceptable diluents or carriers.

4. A compound of formula (I) as defined in claim 1 or claim 2 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or solvate thereof for use as a pharmaceutical.

5. Use of a compound of formula (I) as defined in claim 1 or claim 2 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or solvate thereof in the treatment of diseases characterised by elevated β-amyloid levels or β-amyloid deposits.

6. Use of a compound of formula (I) as defined in claim 1 or claim 2 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or solvate thereof in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of diseases characterised by elevated β-amyloid levels or β-amyloid deposits.

7. A method of treatment or prophylaxis of diseases characterised by elevated β-amyloid levels or β-amyloid deposits which comprises administering to a patient an effective amount of a compound of formula (I) as defined in claim 1 or claim 2 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or solvate thereof.

8. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of formula (I) as defined in claim 1 or claim 2 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or solvate thereof for use in the treatment of diseases characterised by elevated β-amyloid levels or β-amyloid deposits.